



ELECTRONICS study is being pursued at El Camino College by Keith Read, who checks the frequency of a signal generator at the left while Frank Landerville assists on a calibrating oscilloscope.

Nile Lights Best Blue

One of the best blues to be found in California gardens is that belonging to Agapanthus — the lovely Lily of the Nile. During several weeks of summer, its showy umbels are held aloft on long, stiff stems for all to see. And see them you do, from the Oregon border to Old Mexico, now available in dwarf form about one-half as large.

There are few plants more easily grown than this tuberous rooted "Lily" and a few more satisfactory for both new and old gardens. Unlike most bulbous plants, its strap-like foliage is evergreen, lending substance to the garden from the moment you set it out. And like most bulbs, it has a built-in bloom that comes the first summer after planting. Plants set out now will be in bloom before you know it.

To think of Lily of the Nile as a summer blooming plant only is not taking California's varied climate into full account. In southern California, it is more apt

to be a late spring bloomer, while the farther north you grow it, the later it blooms. Members of the California Association of Nurserymen suggest planting Lily of the Nile with the Red Hot Poker plant for a striking contrast of colors. The fiery red orange of the Red Hot Poker makes a perfect background to the crisp blue of Agapanthus. Delphiniums may be included in this setting, as a background to the Pokers.

You can work other combinations yourself—perhaps a Yarrow or two and a foreground of white annuals or Basket of Gold Alyssum. In planting Lilies of the Nile, take care that good drainage is insured. They will endure most any cultural conditions except soggy soil. Gardeners have known good success with growing them in tubs and containers. If you would try it, plant one to a medium container—about three to a tub the size of a half 50-gallon barrel.

Like most bulbous plants, agapanthus will increase in size during the years. Eventually, it will become overcrowded and need division. When this happens, lift the clump during late fall or winter and divide it. Your efforts in this line will be rewarded with a goodly number of new plants, so don't begrudge the little effort involved.

Old Costumes Displayed Now At Museum

An exhibition of examples of historic costumes and artistic textiles acquired in the past year is now on view in the Costume Gallery of the Los Angeles County Museum. According to Mrs. Stefania P. Holt, curator of textiles and costumes, the exhibits have been selected from a number of important acquisitions by the Department of Textiles and Costumes through gifts and purchases.

The items on display range from a portrait woven by the Copts in Egypt in the third century A.D. to costumes from England and France dated around 1900 which show the influence of the "Art Nouveau" craze. Of particular interest are embroidered church vestments made in England and France around 1500; an English wedding dress from 1814; such items of 18th century men's wear as a cap worn at home after the wig was removed and a waistcoat and sash ornamented with hand-painted miniatures; Italian embroidery of the 16th century and French laces of the 17th century.

Mrs. Holt added that a large variety of costumes, 19th century and modern, donated by the members of the Costume Council during the past 12 months, will be displayed later at a special exhibition.

Vines Combine Color, Beauty Year-Round

The beauty of vines is a spring-summer phenomenon in most of our nation; which is another argument for living in California—most especially in southern California where vines bloom in winter, spring, summer and fall. Take pause during the coming months and see just how much certain vines can add to the winter color scheme.

You'll see, no doubt, the occasional red-flowering Bougainvillea—probably the variety Barbara Karst—showing its colors. This is a near year-round performer in Southern California. You'll see others, too, that any local member of the California Association of Nurserymen can supply you with. Prominent among the cool season vines is the Vine Lilac, a delicately graceful vine that can be treated much as the Star Jasmine might be. Grow it up a pillar or tie it down and let it spread as a ground cover.

The blooms are delicate, Pea-shaped things, borne in panicles of deep blue. They appear usually in February and March around here and are definitely worth growing. The Flame Vine—a trumpet vine of striking good looks—is also prominently seen in coastal areas of

Gas Company Wins First Place in Dallas Contest

The Southern California Gas Company was awarded first place in the Community Relations category of Public Relations Achievement during national American Gas Association competition, according to an announcement made today by Georg Babbe, Manager of the utility's Southwest division here.

The fifth annual competition, held in Dallas, Texas, at the 43rd annual meeting of the AGA, included awards in eight public relations categories, Babbe said. Gas company vice president F. M. Foster received the trophy on behalf of the Southern California Gas Company. "Basis for the award," Babbe said, "was our Pipeline Tours program, for community representatives in the areas served by our company. The tours offer a better understanding of some of the problems we encounter in bringing in sufficient supplies of out-of-state gas to keep pace with the tremendous growth in the Southland."

Directing the overall tours program is F. C. Sullivan, Director of Public Relations for the utility. Guests for the tours have been composed principally of civic officials, business leaders, educators, and representatives of the various news media. "The program also gives us a good opportunity to illustrate the magnitude of the investment involved," Babbe pointed out, "as well as some of the engineering achievements." The Southern California Gas Company has been accorded national recognition five times during the five years in which the AGA competition has been held.



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